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SUBJECT: TFGG01: GEORGIA TASK FORCE SITUATION REPORT NO.

22

CLASSIFIED BY: PJWALKER/DCSCHNEIDER, S/ES-O, REASON
1.4(D)

NO EVIDENCE OF RUSSIAN WITHDRAWAL

¶1. (SBU) Russian checkpoints remain on the Gori-Tbilisi highway. Russia may raise a failed POW exchange as a reason for not withdrawing. (TF/Embassy Tbilisi telcon)

¶2. (SBU) Russia denies allegations it blew up the Kaspi bridge. (TF/Embassy Tbilisi telcon)

¶3. (SBU) Russia denied access to OSCE observers in both Gori and South Ossetia. (TF/Embassy Tbilisi telcon)

HUMANITARIAN ISSUES AND RESOURCES

¶4. (SBU) USS McFaul and US Coast Guard Cutter Dallas will enter the Black Sea August 22 and 24, and reach the Georgian coast two days later. USS Taylor and USS Mount Whitney could enter between August 25-31. (TF/Embassy

Ankara e-mail)

¶15. (SBU) EUCOM Brig. Gen. Miller and Treasury DAS Meyer are in Tbilisi to discuss assistance. (TF/Embassy Tbilisi telcon)

¶16. (SBU) EUCOM completed 10 flights with humanitarian aid. (TF/USAID e-mail)

CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATIONS CONTINUE TO ARRIVE

¶17. (SBU) Congressman Smith plans to arrive in Tbilisi August 19; the Evans children are the focus of his trip. (TF/Rep. Smith telcon)

¶18. (SBU) Senators Lieberman and Graham will visit Tbilisi August 20, and Senator Lugar will visit August 23-24. (TF/H e-mail)

STATUS OF DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS

¶19. (SBU) NATO did not achieve consensus on the NAC statement or on responses to Georgia's requests. Discussions on forming a NATO-Georgia Commission are proceeding. Russia revoked its request for an NRC meeting. (TF/USNATO telcon)

¶10. (SBU) Russia is stalling OSCE action despite Finnish efforts; a decision to deploy additional military monitoring officers is unlikely today. (TF/EUR/RPM e-mail)

¶11. (S/NF) Quad Political Directors concurred P-3 agreement on any UNSC resolution would be necessary before engaging Russia, making a resolution unlikely until a cease-fire is confirmed. (TF/USUN e-mail)

AMERICAN MINORS REMAIN IN COUNTRY

¶12. (SBU) Approximately 25 Amcits remain in Georgia. Post continues to advise Amcits to stay in place until security improves. (TF/Embassy Tbilisi telcon)

¶13. (U) Minimize considered.
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